(c) whether it is also a fact that in the survey of ORG-IMS it has been revealed that in comparison to the medicines of the above three diseases, the sale percentage of antibiotic medicines and vitamin medicines has decreased; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) (a) to (d) the information is being collected and will be laid on the table of House.

Committee to examine the adverse effect of aerated drinks

3770. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up an expert committee to examine the adverse effects of aerated drinks with additives on public health;

(b) what are the terms and reference of the Committee;

(c) whether the Committee has since submitted its report; and

(d) if so, the finding thereof and the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) (a) to (d) A National Level Expert Committee has been constituted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare under the Chairmanship of Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) to guide Pesticide Residues Sub-Committee of the Central Committee for Food Standards (CCFS) on the following:—

(i) To decide the Pesticide Residue Sub-Committee on fixation of MRLs on pesticide in carbonated beverage, fruits and vegetables juices and other finished products.

(ii) To guide the Pesticide Residues Sub-Committee on technical aspects of fixing MRLs including methodology, toxicity, processing factor, methods of analysis, health risks that may be considered for risk analysis, risk management and risk communication as per Codex Working Principles.

(iii) To guide on monitoring of pesticide in carbonated beverages and other food commodities.

(iv) To guide on any other matter on which pesticide residues sub-committee, Central Committee for Food Standards, Department of Health may require technical clarification/guidance.

The Committee has further been requested to provide guidelines also in respect of adverse effect of aerated drinks with additives on public health in the light of the order passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, in case of the Writ Petition (Civil) No. 681 of 2004. The Committee has not submitted its report till date.

Increase of pre-natal sex determination cases

†3771. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cases of pre-natal sex determination test in the country are constantly on the rise;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government's efforts for banning such sex determination tests have ended in failure;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government are formulating any scheme with the help of State Governments for strict implementation of Pre-Natal (Diagnostic Techniques Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) (a) The child sex ratio for the age group of 0-6 years has declined from 945 girls per thousand boys in 1991 to 927 in 2001. One of the reasons attributed to this decline is sex determination of the foetus followed by female foeticide.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.